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DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENTS

The Trustees of the Art Institute have granted to Mr. Donald Robertson the use of Fullerton Memorial Hall upon Wednesday evenings for thirty weeks, beginning Oct. 7, 1908, for the presentation by the well known Donald Robertson Company of standard plays of masters, ancient and modern. Admission will be free to members of the Art Institute and their families, and there will be no paid admissions.

Much has been said in the press of the new relations of the Art Institute to the drama. It has been widely published that for the first time in America municipal aid has been extended to the drama. But the Art Institute does not represent the municipality, and has no relation to the City, except that it is upon public ground, and has engaged to open the galleries free upon certain days and to admit public school teachers free. The result is perhaps equivalent to municipal patronage, and there can be no objection to this. The different branches of art, painting, architecture, drama, music, are fundamentally one, and the action of the Trustees in admitting Mr. Robertson's Company to Fullerton Hall illustrates the strong attraction of the arts for each other. It is the same principle which makes it difficult to refrain from introducing books of poetry and general literature into the art library, musical entertainments into the lecture courses, and exhibitions of kindred arts into the galleries.

The plays upon the evenings of Oct. 14, 21, 28 and Nov. 4 will be the following:

1. The Prodigal—A French Comedy by Voltaire.

2. Zaragueta. A Spanish Comedy by Megue Raneos Carreon and Vital Aza. Translated by George Carter Howland.

3. Rahab. A poetic Drama by Richard Burton.

4. John Gabriel Borkman. By Hendrik Ibsen.

Since it is contrary to the usage of the Art Institute to allow seats to be reserved, and since the number of members and patrons is sufficient to fill the hall many times, there is reason for apprehension that some may suffer disappointment about gaining admission, at least upon the early evenings.

MUSEUM ATTENDANCE

The number of visitors at the Museum during the three months ending August 31, 1908, is shown in the following table:

13 Sundays,	-	-	-	21,735
26 Other free days,	-	-	-	78,803
53 Pay days,	-	-	-	13,844
92 Days,	-	-	-	114,382

The average attendance has been:

Sundays,	-	-	-	-	1,672
Other free days,	-	-	-	-	3,031
Pay days,	-	-	-	-	261

During the same period last year the total attendance was 118,592, showing a decrease this year of 4,210, due probably to the exceptionally hot summer.

LIBRARY ATTENDANCE

During the last three months the number of visitors at the Ryerson Library has been:

	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
Students,	-	2,495	1,730
Visitors,	-	1,015	925
Consulting visitors,	527	407	593
	4,037	3,062	3,381

Total, June, July and August, 10,480.

Last year, 1907, during the same period there were 9,209. The attendance is much smaller during the summer quarter than at any other time of year.